

February 14, 2003

FACT SHEET

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NEW SOURCE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR VOLATILE ORGANIC LIQUID STORAGE VESSELS

TODAY'S ACTION

- ! The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to amend the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for Volatile Organic Liquid (VOL) Storage (40 CFR Part 60, subpart Kb).
- ! EPA is proposing to:
 - Add a tank size applicability criteria to include tanks larger than 75 cubic meters (20,000 gallons);
 - Add a liquid vapor pressure applicability criteria to include tanks with vapor pressures higher than 15 kilopascals (2.2 pounds per square inch absolute) for small tanks;
 - Add a liquid vapor pressure applicability criteria to include tanks with vapor pressures higher than 3.5 kilopascals (0.5 pounds per square inch absolute) for large tanks;
 - Exempt process tanks; and
 - Exempt tanks subject to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Solvent Extraction for Vegetable Oil Production issued in April 2001.
- ! EPA is issuing these changes as a direct final rule and a parallel proposal. If the Agency receives adverse comment on these changes, we will withdraw the direct final rule and carefully consider all comments received before issuing a final rule amendment.

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS?

- ! EPA estimates that today's proposed rule will have no negative health or environmental impacts.
- ! The proposed applicability criteria would reduce the number of storage tanks affected by the standards, but there would be no change in emissions because tanks below the proposed criteria are subject only to record keeping requirements.
- ! EPA estimates there would be no change in emissions from the proposed exemption for process tanks because few of these tanks require emission control under the standards, and most of these tanks are covered under various air toxics standards.

WHO WILL BE AFFECTED BY EPA'S PROPOSED RULE?

- ! The VOL Storage NSPS affects VOL storage tanks in all industries. Most VOL storage tanks are located at chemical manufacturing facilities, petroleum manufacturing facilities, and petroleum bulk stations and terminals.

PROPOSED RULE COSTS

- ! Since today's proposed rule would reduce the number of sources affected by the VOL Storage NSPS, there would be no additional costs as a result of this action.

BACKGROUND

- ! EPA proposed the VOL Storage NSPS on July 23, 1984 (49 FR 29698) and promulgated them on April 8, 1987 (52 FR 11420). The standards implement Section 111 of the Clean Air Act and are based on the Administrator's determination that VOL storage vessels cause or contribute significantly to air pollution which may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare.
- ! On March 27, 2000, EPA issued a memorandum stating that process tanks are "storage vessels" under the definition in the VOL Storage NSPS. On May 26, 2000, the American Forest and Paper Association (AF&PA) filed a petition for judicial review of that memorandum. Today's proposed rule addresses the issues raised by AF&PA in its petition for review.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- ! For further information about the proposed rule, contact Mark Morris of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5416. The proposed rule can be accessed from the Clean Air Act Amendments bulletin board of EPA's Technology Transfer Network (TTN) at the following Internet address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/caaa/t3pfpr.html>.